

Pavilion calls for Fun Day at Farrow

A local missions project drew participation from 45 men from the Lafayette and Marshall Baptist Associations.

The project, to build a pavilion for the children at the Baptist Children's Village Farrow Manor campus at Independence, was jointly developed by Don Williams, Farrow Manor campus director, and Don Stanfill, director of missions for Marshall and Lafayette. Francis Williams did the grading

work with a dozer. Then nine men from Harmontown Church built the forms and Frank Collier and Billy Mitchell led a crew of seven in pouring the slab.

On a beautiful Saturday with the temperature at 101 degrees, 24 men came with saws and hammers, completing the work that afternoon on the 20 x 30 foot pavilion. New Hope Church was represented by the Rhodes family as they roofed it and finishing

touches were made by a group from the Slayden Church. And water lines were provided by C.A. Sanders and crew.

The pavilion was shortly thereafter used by 78 young people who held Fun Day at Farrow Manor. Music was provided by the Ole Miss BSU, with food, games, and a time of worship.

Wade Conner and Ray Foshee are Lafayette and Marshall Brotherhood directors, respectively.

The Baptist Record

JOURNAL OF THE MISSISSIPPI BAPTIST CONVENTION

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Congress gives final approval to sweeping tax code revision

By Kathy Palen

WASHINGTON (BP) — Despite last-minute threats of blockage, the U.S. Senate and House of Representatives have given final approval to a wide-sweeping revision of the federal tax code.

The Tax Reform Act of 1986, which is expected to be signed into law by President Reagan within days, contains several provisions that will affect churches, church-related institutions, and ministers.

Both bodies voted by wide margins to approve the compromise version of H. R. 3838. The House approved the bill 292-136, with the Senate following suit by a vote of 74-23.

The legislation will retain the tax-exempt status of church pension and welfare groups, including the Southern Baptist Convention's Annuity Board. The House version would have stripped such boards of their federal tax exemption.

The comprise bill also will restore

clergy housing benefits. Under a current Internal Revenue Service ruling — Revenue Ruling 83-3 — only ministers who occupied their residence or had a contract to purchase one by Jan. 1, 1983, are eligible to declare mortgage interest and property tax deductions in addition to tax-exempt housing allowances. Even that limited eligibility is scheduled to extend only through tax year 1986.

Renovation of that IRS ruling will enable ministers receiving housing allowances who failed to claim deductions for interest and real estate taxes paid since 1983 to file amended tax returns seeking refunds.

The new lay package will end the eligibility of non-itemizing taxpayers to claim deductions for charitable contributions. That benefit, which has been available to non-itemizers for the past three years, will end Dec. 31, 1986.

Other provisions of H.R. 3838 that will affect church-related institutions

and employees include:

- denying a participant in a pension plan — such as offered by the Annuity Board — from deducting contributions to individual retirement accounts.

- adding non-discrimination rules that will require employers to equalize benefits for employees at all compensation levels, set more restrictive limits on the amounts that can be credited to an employee's retirement program, and revise the system under which ministers and churches can participate in the Social Security system.

- imposing new penalty taxes on most early withdrawals from pension plans.

- restricting the amount of "catch-up" contributions a participant may make to a retirement income account to make up for years in which he was able to contribute little or nothing.

Kathy Palen writes for the BP Washington bureau.

SBC agencies vow to "lock step"

By Karen Benson

NASHVILLE, Tenn. (BP) — Leaders of five Southern Baptist Convention agencies have vowed to join their resources — money, time, and staff — to make missions the "pivotal element" of Southern Baptist life.

Agreeing to "lock step and walk together," the five leaders met Sept. 24 and adopted three strategies that will shape a churchwide missions education plan.

Joining forces were Keith Parks, president of the Foreign Mission Board; Bob Banks, interim president of the Home Mission Board; Carolyn Weatherford, executive director of Woman's Missionary Union; James Smith, president of the Brotherhood Commission; and Jim Clark, ex-

ecutive vice president of the Sunday School Board, who was representing president Lloyd Elder.

Although the agencies have cooperated in past years on curriculum materials for churches, they have not developed deliberate, coordinated efforts at this level on other missions programs and activities.

While specifics were not mentioned, the agency executives nonetheless recognized "decidedly innovative things" can happen as the result of this cooperation, Smith said.

In taking the action, the five leaders agreed their decision to join together is based on certain fundamental principles. The strategy statement

adopted reflected that agreement:

"Growing out of our commitment to Jesus Christ and his word, and out of our concern for a lost world, we affirm that missions is a binding force for Southern Baptists; that every Southern Baptist church needs the kind of continuing missions education which supports the work of the kingdom; that education for missions demands a comprehensive approach and must build from processes which begin from a common center and reach to every church member; and that education for missions requires a coordinated approach in proper relation to all the church is doing."

Karen Benson writes for WMU, SBC.



Sculptor mounts 12-foot globe

Sculptor Clifford Earl finishes mounting a 12-foot globe in the center of a memorial fountain at the Southern Baptist Foreign Mission Board's Cauthen Missionary Learning Center in Rockville, Va. The globe and fountain, along with two buildings and a gazebo, were dedicated Sept. 10 at a board trustee meeting. All were financed through private donations. (FMB) PHOTO by Stanley Leary.

Cooperative Program goes on 50-50 basis in Georgia

ATLANTA (BP) — The Georgia Baptist Convention has become the third state body in the Southern Baptist Convention to divide its Cooperative Program receipts on a 50-50 basis with Southern Baptist causes.

The convention's executive committee has voted to recommend a 1987 Cooperative Program budget of \$26,946,000, an increase of 12.08 percent over the 1986 budget. The budget

is subject to final approval by the Georgia convention, which meets in November. Florida and Oklahoma already have gone 50-50.

Mississippi Baptists in 1987 will be sending 36.5 percent of their total budget to SBC causes outside the state, with another 22.08 percent going to Christian higher education, its capital needs, and funding of the endowment campaign which goes toward higher education.

Editorials . . . by Don McGregor

The many who are without

As we go to bed without hunger tonight, those of us who do, let us remember that about half of the people in the world are not fortunate enough to have that experience.

Bill O'Brien, executive vice-president of the Foreign Mission Board, is no stranger to the ravages of hunger. The Foreign Mission Board has been dealing with it for years. That board is fighting hunger with all of its might right now in Africa, particularly in Ethiopia.

O'Brien spoke at the annual Baptist Student Union Convention recently in Jackson. He pointed out that the hungry of the world are not the victims of their own laziness. They are victims of circumstances over which they have no control. And they cannot fight. They have no strength.

"There is something wrong," O'Brien said, "when so much is held by so few." Terrorism is the result of something being wrong, O'Brien declared, and it can be expected to be found in the streets of the United States eventually. "The time may

come when whole nations will be held hostage," he noted.

Oct. 12 is World Hunger Day. Churches will be taking offerings for world hunger. Those offerings need to be generous. Somehow we need to share some of what we have with those who have nothing.

Hunger is a worldwide condition, but it is not to be found only outside of the United States. We probably do not have our share of hunger, but we have it. Jackson has it. Mississippi has it. And it doesn't make any difference whether one lives in Ethiopia or New York — if he's hungry, he's hungry. The needs are so great in some countries such as Ethiopia, however, where almost the entire nation is affected, that our attention is drawn there without question.

Both the Foreign Mission Board and the Home Mission Board have provisions for dealing with the hungry. Money given through those channels goes directly to ways of providing food for those who need it. There is no administrative rake-off. That has

already been paid through the Cooperative Program. All of the hunger money goes to provide for the hungry.

If there are those who have read about hunger funds being sidetracked, there is no fear of such through Southern Baptist channels. These funds are not channeled through governmental or charitable agencies. They go directly from the mission board to the missionaries who are dealing with the problem. All of the money goes there.

World hunger is a problem that is with us the year around. It is a need that we should be providing funds for the year around. The day of emphasis on world hunger, however, is Oct. 12. Whether or not we do anything at all on the other days of the year, let us be sure to be generous on this day. Something is wrong when so much is held by so few.

Since we are among the few, let us not forget the many who are without.

To Be Ignored?

"WHOSOEVER SHALL GIVE TO DRINK UNTO ONE OF THESE LITTLE ONES A CUP OF COLD WATER BECAUSE HE IS A DISCIPLE, VERILY I SAY UNTO YOU, HE SHALL NO WISE LOSE HIS REWARD!" — MATT. 11:42



Guest opinion . . .

Cooperative Program and Christian higher education

By John Alexander

The three Baptist colleges in Mississippi are committed to teaching Christian values. In a complex and secular world, this is tremendously important. While young people need to face the various world philosophies as a part of their education, they need instruction by a Christian teacher who can say unapologetically, "This is the Christian view of the matter!"

Baptist colleges are distinctly different from state-supported institutions. The major difference is in the Christian commitment of the persons involved. Baptist colleges are committed to the belief that a student's educational pilgrimage is not experienced fully unless one's intellectual growth is accompanied by spiritual growth. Baptist colleges faculties are free to demonstrate and advocate the Christian faith.

The only institutions of higher education over which we have control are our Baptist colleges. This control is exercised through the convention election of trustees.

Baptist colleges are not places where there is no sin any more than there are homes or churches where there is no sin. Where flagrant violations of God's law are found, Baptist college administrators are free to deal with such matters in a positive and redemptive manner. Baptist institutions are free to advocate Baptist beliefs and Christian commitment.

Young people on Baptist college campuses have a greater opportunity to form lasting friendships with others who share their beliefs and values. The central goal of the Baptist college is strengthening one's commitment to the Christian faith.

Youth attending Baptist colleges are exposed to great Christian leaders and have numerous open doors to Christian service.

Enrollment in Baptist colleges is made up of the youth from our homes. They take whoever we send them if the applicant has the necessary academic requirements. College administrators and teachers build on the foundations of the home and church.

Because Baptist colleges receive no direct public tax support, they must recover the resources necessary for continued operation.

A major source of support for Mississippi Baptist colleges is the Cooperative Program. Christian Higher Education is the single largest item in the state Cooperative Program budget. Including the capital needs allocation, Christian Education in Mississippi will receive 21.35 percent of the budget in 1986. This will amount to \$3,961,247.

Tuition at Baptist colleges is higher than at state-supported colleges because Baptist colleges receive no direct tax support. We do not ask infidels, agnostics, or persons of other religious persuasions to support Bap-

tist colleges teaching and advocating Baptist beliefs.

Our Baptist forefathers, who came mainly from European countries with established churches supported by general taxation, were determined to be free from government control of their churches and schools. We follow in that valued tradition. It is impeccably clear in our world that government dollars and government control always go together.

Through our institutions of higher education we offer special assistance for young preacher boys who are struggling to provide for their families and get an education for the ministry. Through the Board of Ministerial Education, the Cooperative Program provides \$92,500 for 1986. Most of this aid goes into housing for ministerial students.

In a time of increasing amalgamation of world ideas and philosophies that fill academic communities, we believe it is most important to provide quality education in a Christian environment under Christian instructors. Baptist colleges provide this "extra" dimension.

A confused world needs Christian-educated leaders who have their heads on straight. Christian leaders are needed in business, the professions, the classroom, the government, and in the churches. We need people who know what they believe and why

they believe it. Through our institutions of higher education we are trying to pass along our Christian faith and values to future generations.

In Summary

Why do we support Christian higher education?

- 1) Baptist colleges belong to us. Mississippi Baptists established and continue to support quality Christian higher education.
- 2) Baptist colleges offer students an alternative to state-controlled and tax-supported institutions of higher education.
- 3) Baptist colleges attempt to

strengthen the Christian faith of the students, not destroy it.

4) No apology is ever needed on Baptist campuses for being distinctly Christian in attitude or action. Quality education is offered in a Christian setting.

5) Students have the opportunity to form lasting friendships with other young people with high moral, ethical, and religious values.

John Alexander is director of the Stewardship and Cooperative Program Promotion Department, Mississippi Baptist Convention Board.

Texas governor tacitly approves gambling bill

DALLAS (BP) — Texas Governor Mark White has allowed to pass into law without his signature a bill that legalizes pari-mutuel gambling in Texas, pending a statewide referendum in November 1987.

The bill, which opens the door to betting on horse races throughout Texas and on greyhound races in three Gulf Coast counties, was passed by the Texas House and Senate in their first special session of the summer. White had until midnight, Sept. 24, either to veto the bill, sign it or allow

it to pass into law without his signature.

White's approval of the pari-mutuel bill means the issue now is scheduled to appear on a statewide ballot in November 1987. If gambling wins on the general ballot, pari-mutuel betting then must gain voter approval on a local-option basis to be legal in individual counties.

However, gambling opponents have pointed out the law could come into effect without the referendum if courts rule the referendum illegal.

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Executive Committee proposes \$140 million goal for 1987-88

NASHVILLE, Tenn. (BP) — The Southern Baptist Convention's Executive Committee approved a proposed 1987-88 SBC Cooperative Program budget goal of \$140 million during its September meeting here.

The Cooperative Program is Southern Baptists' combined budget which finances missions, educational, and evangelistic endeavors worldwide. Funds are given by members to their churches and then channeled through state Baptist conventions to national and international Baptist causes.

The proposed 1987-88 Cooperative Program goal will be voted on by

messengers to the SBC annual meeting next summer in St. Louis.

The \$140 million goal is 2.94 percent larger than the \$136 million goal for the 1986-87 fiscal year which begins Oct. 1. The overall goal is broken down into three parts:

— A basic operating budget of \$132 million, which will provide operating funds for 20 entities that receive Cooperative Program funds. This figure represents a 4.25 percent increase over the 1986-87 basic operating budget of \$126,630,000.

The beneficiary entities that receive Cooperative Program funds have asked for almost \$140.1 million for their 1987-88 operating budgets.

The Executive Committee's program and budget subcommittee will meet in January to reconcile the requests with the overall goal and will recommend specific institutional allocations at the committee's February meeting.

— A capital needs budget of \$6,450,000, which already has been approved as part of the convention's 1985-90 capital needs budget.

— Phase II of the basic operating budget, \$1,550,000, which will be allocated to the 20 recipient entities if the other two portions of the budget are completed.

Books will close on the 1985-86 Cooperative Program budget Sept. 30. That budget's goal is \$130 million.

The Second Front Page

The Baptist Record

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Peace Committee asks for Oct. 19 Day of Prayer

By Dan Martin

NASHVILLE, Tenn. (BP) — Sunday, Oct. 19, has been designated as a Day of Prayer and Fasting for the Southern Baptist Convention's Peace Committee on the eve of its three-day prayer retreat with executives of SBC agencies.

The request for the special convention-wide prayer effort came from Peace Committee Chairman Charles Fuller in a report to the September meeting of the SBC Executive Committee.

Fuller, pastor of First Baptist Church of Roanoke, Va., urged all Southern Baptists "to seek the face of God on behalf of all of those who will participate in the special prayer retreat" Oct. 20-22 at the Glorieta Baptist Conference Center near Santa Fe, N.M.

The prayer retreat has been planned to bring together the special 22-member convention-created committee and the executives of the 20 national SBC agencies in an effort to seek reconciliation of the seven-year

controversy in the nation's largest non-Catholic denomination.

Fuller told Executive Committee members, agency executives and more than 200 other persons present for the meeting: "I call upon us all, including the Peace Committee chairman, to ask of our motives, 'Is it reconciliation we seek, or only victory?'"

Following the report, Executive Committee Chairman David Maddox called all agency executives and members of the Peace Committee to the front of the meeting hall for a time of special prayer, for the persons individually, for the convention, and for the prayer retreat.

During his report, Fuller told the Executive Committee the Peace Committee "hopes to have a preliminary report to present to the Executive Committee in its February 1987 meeting. At that point, we would hope to profit from your response and, if the schedule we have made for

ourselves progresses as planned, will attempt to release a final report with recommendations at least two months prior to the 1987 Southern Baptist Convention in St. Louis."

He said the full Peace Committee has met once since the 1986 annual meeting and that five of its members met in mid-September with the presidents of the six Southern Baptist seminaries, whom he thanked for "their cooperative part" in the session which was "preparatory to the prayer retreat at Glorieta."

During the Executive Committee meeting, Milton Ferguson, president of Midwestern Seminary in Kansas City, Mo., and chairman of the seminary presidents' informal organization, reported on the meeting.

"We (the presidents) responded with enthusiasm to the invitation from ... the Peace Committee," Ferguson said. "Our meeting ... was very helpful. Our conversations were frank and productive. We did not seek to

(Continued on page 5)

September gifts show 31% increase

September receipts for the Cooperative Program from Mississippi Baptist churches totaled nearly \$1.5 million, a 31 percent increase over September gifts in 1985, according to Earl Kelly, executive secretary-treasurer of the Mississippi Baptist Convention Board, which forwards the monies to their respective causes.

Gifts totaled \$1,479,091 in September,

\$350,217 more than that given in September of 1985.

The total giving in Mississippi for the first nine months of 1986 is \$13,182,513, a \$528,616 increase over the first three-quarters of 1985. However, that figure is still \$729,987 behind the pro rata amount which is the monthly amount needed to reach the budget goal by the end of the year.

The 1986 Cooperative Program

budget is \$18,550,000, an increase of \$11,528,145, or nine percent, over the 1985 budget.

Gifts from the churches which participate in the unified budget plan go to fund missions and education operations in state, across the nation, and around the world. Mississippi Baptists send 36 percent of these funds to Southern Baptist causes outside the state.



Christmas comes early for US-2er

Christmas has come early for Beth Sartain, above right, of Ethel. Following the Sunday night worship service on Sept. 7, she was presented Christmas gifts by members of the congregation as a token of love as she leaves to serve in Columbia, S.C. as a US-2er.

Miss Sartain was commissioned by the Home Mission Board in recent ceremonies in Conyers, Ga. Missions work is not a new venture for her. She has worked in mission centers in Houston, Texas; New Orleans, La.; and Mansfield, Ohio. Dwight Brown, pastor of Ethel Church, left, presents a gift.

Nursing Fellowship's first to be one of two retreats

"Gifted to Serve, Called to Act," will be the theme for two retreats to be held at Camp Garaywa, Clinton, Oct. 17-18. The meetings will be of the Baptist Young Women and the Baptist Nursing Fellowship, which will be holding its first weekend gathering.

The new organization is for nurses who seek Christian fellowship and who would like to participate in short term special missions projects stateside or overseas. Started last January the fellowship is sponsored by the state Woman's Missionary Union.

Keynote speaker for the BNF retreat will be Winfield Applewhite, retired missionary to Indonesia, and R. Joyce De Ridder, health recruitment consultant for the Foreign Mission Board.

BNF officers and members will share experiences as team members on recent overseas mission projects and there will be a panel discussion related to the theme of the retreat and an update on current short term missions projects.

Program guests for the BYW retreat include Mrs. Ben Nash, on leave of absence from Ghana; Mrs. Applewhite; and Mrs. James Foster, retired missionary to Suriname.

Special interest conferences include

"Fighting Pornography," "Let's Talk About Home Time," "Liking Myself," and "Clowning and Puppets."

Both groups will share in the Friday evening campfire and morning watch on Saturday.

Both retreats begin with the Friday evening meal at 6:30. The BNF retreat concludes at 2 p.m. Saturday; the BYW retreat ends after lunch Saturday.

Those who can attend only the Saturday sessions of the BNF retreat are welcome. The morning session



DeRidder

Applewhite

begins at 9 and lunch is at 12:15. Cost of the meal is \$3.50. There is no registration fee.

Cost for either retreat is \$17 per person and reservations are necessary. To make reservations, contact Ashley McCaleb, WMU, Box 530, Jackson, Miss., 39205.

Rogers cites scripture as 'The Issue' for SBC

By Marv Knox

NASHVILLE, Tenn. (BP) — Scripture remains "the issue" facing Southern Baptists, Adrian Rogers told denominational newspaper editors during a dinner/news conference in Nashville, Tenn.

Rogers, president of the 14.5-million-member Southern Baptist Convention and pastor of Bellevue Baptist Church, Memphis, met with editors of the convention's state papers during the September meeting of the SBC Executive Committee.

Scripture "is without error historically, philosophically, theologically, and scientifically," he said, promising to use his appointment powers to install only Baptists who see the Bible as he sees it.

Asked about issues facing the convention, Rogers said: "The issue with me is almost one issue: What is Scripture? There are a lot of side issues, but frankly I believe that if we can settle that one issue, that's the log causing the logjam."

The "logjam" is a seven-year-old theological/political SBC controversy which surfaced in the denomination when Rogers first was elected president in 1979. Rogers was the first of four SBC presidents elected with the support of people who wish to turn the convention in a more conservative direction. He served the 1979-80 term and then was elected to a one-year term this summer.

The presidency has been at the center of the controversy because of its powers. The president appoints the Committee on Committees, which nominates the Committee on Boards, which nominates trustees for all national SBC agencies and institutions. Rogers also is a member of the 15-month-old SBC Peace Committee, appointed to seek solutions to the denominational controversy.

He presented a history lesson concerning a key phrase in the SBC's statement of faith as he explained to the editors why he feels understanding of Scripture is central to the conflict. He focused on Article I of "The Baptist Faith and Message" which deals with Scriptures and notes the Bible has "... truth, without any mixture of error, for its matter."

Rogers said the phrase originated "before the higher critical method of biblical study was even known" and consequently before the inerrancy of Scripture was called into question. He added the phrase was picked up by Southern Baptists in both the 1925 and 1963 "Baptist Faith and Message" statements. He further noted Herschel Hobbs, who chaired the 1963 statement committee, has at least twice since "said this statement means all Scripture ... not that the Scripture contains the Word of God, but that it is the Word of God."

He added that messengers to the SBC annual meeting in Dallas in 1985 "uproariously affirmed" such an interpretation of the statement. "We don't have to guess about it," he said. "There's a history. That's what the statement means in the hearts and minds of most Southern Baptists. I

know that I know that's true."

"I think that is the issue. I think those who teach in our seminaries and those who serve us in our agencies, they ought to believe and teach what the rank and file of us believe who pay the bills. I think it's only fair. That is not using that statement as a creed, because we're not telling them what they have to believe. They can believe anything they want to. We're just telling them what they have to believe if they work for us."

"I can tell you, from my perspective, it is not political."

Rogers stressed his commitment to his belief: "Because I believe so much in the priesthood of the believer and our accountability to God alone, I would never, I hope till I die, compromise conviction on the altar of cooperation. This is not to say I do not believe in cooperation, but there are certain things in my life that are non-negotiable. ... One day I have to report in to our Lord, and so I'm not going to compromise convictions that I hold deeper than life. And one of those convictions is with the Word of God, and the other is the God of that Word. It's hard for me to separate the two."

When an editor noted the Peace Committee had determined the controversy is political as well as theological, Rogers said: "I can tell you, from my perspective it is not political. I think from most responsible conservatives I know it is not political. The Peace Committee ... said the issue is theological, and the political is a spin-off."

Rogers vowed to leave politics out of his appointments this year. "I do not intend to make appointments that are overtly political," he said. "I'm going to try to make appointments from those that I consider to be the best Southern Baptists."

"The Baptist Faith and Message" statement, especially its section on the Scriptures, will be central for Rogers' appointments. "If he doesn't believe that, I wouldn't appoint him," the president said.

"I would make appointments from people who hold that kind of theological perspective, and so obviously, that would exclude some people, but it would not exclude people on a political basis. It would exclude them on a theological basis, and theology is only one issue. I want to appoint people who would be the best Baptists, not only theologically, but cooperatively and intellectually and spiritually."

Rogers also said he would not appoint persons to the Committee on Committees who, although believing as he does, would appoint to the Committee on Boards people who believe differently. "I don't see that as political," he said. "I see that as consistent."

The night before he met with the

editors, Rogers addressed the Executive Committee and several hundred state and national denominational workers. He noted several "good things" can be said about the convention. There is increased prayer; Southern Baptists are evaluating themselves; they are restating their belief in the Bible; some churches are ready to increase their gifts to denominational causes; and "we have people talking and meeting together who have not met and talked before."

He also said Southern Baptists have three common characteristics which bind them: "We have a common experience; we've all been born again. We have a common faith; we believe certain things. And we have a common task, sharing the gospel of Jesus Christ."

But he preached on "what Southern Baptists need now ... love," drawing from the passage in the Gospel of John which describes Jesus washing the feet of his disciples. He explained Jesus embodied selfless, steadfast, serving, sanctifying love, adding Southern Baptists, too, need to embody that kind of love.

The "hidden lesson" of the story, Rogers said, is "spiritually renewing, spiritually refreshing, ... forgiving."

Marv Knox is BP feature editor.

STATEMENT OF OWNERSHIP, MANAGEMENT AND CIRCULATION	
For the month of October 1986	
1. TITLE OF PUBLICATION	2. ISSUE DATE
3. NUMBER OF ISSUES PUBLISHED ANNUALLY	4. ANNUAL SUBSCRIPTION PRICE
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7. NAME AND ADDRESS OF BUSINESS MANAGER	8. NAME AND ADDRESS OF CIRCULATION MANAGER
9. NAME AND ADDRESS OF ADVERTISING MANAGER	10. NAME AND ADDRESS OF SALES MANAGER
11. NAME AND ADDRESS OF POSTMASTER	12. NAME AND ADDRESS OF CARRIER
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Calvary, Braxton, will burn note

Calvary Church, Braxton, will burn the note of its church debt, Oct. 12, during homecoming, Vance Dyess, guest speaker. Dinner on the ground.

All indebtedness has been paid. The church has purchased a organ, pew cushions, new pulpit and communion table. Four new Sunday School classes and two new departments have been organized. A new annex, including library, two offices and Sunday School space has been approved. H. J. Bennett is pastor.

HOMEcoming DAY

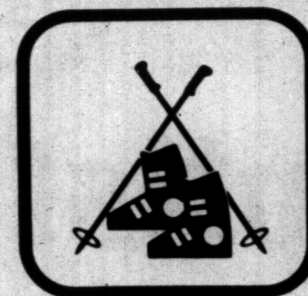
**First Baptist Church,
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Peace Committee asks for Oct. 19 Day of Prayer

(Continued from page 3)
reach any specific conclusions; nevertheless, the seminary presidents feel that significant progress was achieved in understanding and perspective."

Ferguson also said: "We are aware that we (the seminaries) are perceived to be at the heart of the controversy in our SBC fellowship. We acknowledge that fact and are ready and committed to become partners in achieving a solution which will allow us to devote our energies once again to evangelism, missions, and education."

Ferguson said the presidents are preparing a proposal to present at the prayer retreat which will include "our plans to help resolve the controversy, unite our hearts and minds and enable us to move ahead with our primary task of proclaiming the gospel to a lost and dying world."

In addition to reporting on its plans for the prayer retreat and final report, Fuller also reminded the Executive Committee of the assignment given the Peace Committee, which is "to discover the causes of the controversies in our convention, to make findings and statements about those causes and to make recommendations about ways to accomplish reconciliation."

He added specific guidelines also had been handed down, including the respecting of the trustee system and the use of the Baptist Faith and Message statement "as the measurement in theological matters..."

Fuller added: "There has been a great deal of political activity outside

of the Peace Committee work. In my opinion, there have been violations of the convention's call for reduced politicizing on the part of individuals involved in both major factions of our controversy. But the Peace Committee has not been given the power to police such activity and that is probably as it should be.

Later, in an interview with Baptist Press, Fuller commented to "set the record straight" on recent criticisms of the Peace Committee made during a meeting of laymen in Fort Worth, Texas. During that meeting, speakers lambasted the Peace Committee for meeting in a "clandestine atmosphere" and for sealing the records for 10 years in what speakers called an attempt to deny Baptists access to the deliberations.

Fuller commended the laymen's group, called "Laity for... the Baptist Faith and Message" for their "desire and spirit." He said the group appears to be "trying to take the initiative to bring about reconciliation," which is the same purpose the Peace Committee has.

He said that "at this point in our controversy and in the pressure of time... it is not uncommon for someone to just step right up to a problem and tackle it. People can get frustrated, but the Peace Committee has been given the official assignment and we are trying hard not to get caught in detours."

He said the committee is meeting within the guidelines set down by the convention, which gave the group the

privilege of meeting either in executive session or in open meetings.

"It is important to know that the Peace Committee chose of its own volition to invite Baptist Press to be present throughout each of its meetings and to release a statement at the close through the chairman. That is an attempt on our part to fulfill our responsibility to keep Southern Baptists informed while at the same time trying to maintain an atmosphere which allows people to speak freely and not be cramped," Fuller said.

Fuller said he feels "compelled" to respond to the charges the Peace Committee has met "clandestinely. I interpret that word to mean 'sinister' or 'subterfuge.' We have met and released statements to try to inform Baptists about what we have done. I do not feel we have been clandestine."

He also said the committee had decided to keep detailed minutes and to make tape recordings of its meetings in order to fully inform Baptists of its activities, rather than attempting to deny them access to the deliberations.

"Our intention has not been to deny Southern Baptists access, but to the contrary. Any other interpretation would be a misreading of our purpose. We adopted the idea of sealing the records for 10 years to allow the committee to be able to function freely, while at the same time trying to keep faith with Baptists of the future," he said.

Dan Martin is BP news editor.

Editors pass resolution on open board meetings

NASHVILLE, Tenn. (BP) — Editors of Southern Baptist state convention newsjournals have passed a resolution which brands as "absolutely unacceptable" closed sessions of Southern Baptist Convention board meetings.

The Southern Baptist Press Association, comprised of editors of 37 state periodicals, unanimously passed the resolution during its late-

September meeting, said Lynn P. Clayton, president of the organization and editor in Louisiana.

The resolution stresses the association's members "view with deep concern the practice of a board, commission or committee having meetings, for the purpose of discussing or conducting business, that are closed to any Southern Baptists."

(Continued on page 6)

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Florida group formed to seek 'freedom, fairness' in SBC

By Greg Warner

VERO BEACH, Fla. (BP) — A group of Florida Baptist pastors and others met in early September to chart a course of "prayer, dialogue, and encouragement" to promote freedom and fairness among differing Southern Baptists.

Organizers said the effort was not political in nature, but admitted their stand for "unity in diversity" would pit them against others calling for "theological conformity" in the Southern Baptist Convention. They also insisted the meeting did not violate the SBC Peace Committee's request for depoliticizing the denominational controversy.

During the organizational meeting at First Baptist Church, Vero Beach, the group adopted a name — Florida Baptists for Cooperation — and a statement of purpose, which said:

"Florida Baptists for Cooperation is an organization dedicated to the preservation of our Baptist heritage of missions, evangelism, and education. In the midst of the crisis in the Southern Baptist Convention, we are committed to the principles of biblical authority, the lordship of Christ, soul competency of every believer, local

church autonomy, and the Cooperative Program method of missions."

Seventeen people, most of them pastors, signed the statement, which included a list of nine objectives.

Members agreed to educate people about the Baptist traditions of religious liberty and cooperation and vowed to work for the election of SBC leaders who are "cooperative" and "fair." The group has not yet spelled out the methods it will use to accomplish those objectives.

"We're not out to form a political party in order to defeat another political party," said Hershel Adams, pastor of First Church, Ft. Pierce, and chairman of the group's steering committee.

In its list of objectives, the group committed "to assist the leadership of our denomination in accomplishing their tasks through prayers, dialogue and encouragement."

"We are going to pray for our leaders and try to dialogue with them," Adams said, "but that doesn't mean we will not disagree with them."

The group's steering committee met in late September to decide what type

of activities to sponsor, Adams said. The committee is composed of six Florida pastors — Adams; Gary Bagley, Bayshore Church, Tampa; Henry Green, First Church, Cocoa; Pete Hill, First Church, Vero Beach; David Medley, Stetson Church, DeLand; and Craig Sherouse, First Church, Seminole.

The statement adopted by the group said religious liberty is best expressed by "practicing the twin concepts of the priesthood of the believer and the autonomy of the local church."

Other objectives called for support of "the institutions and employees of the Southern Baptist and Florida Baptist conventions" and encouraged fellowship with like-minded Baptists in Florida and similar organizations in other states.

Adams said he was encouraged by the positive spirit of the group's meeting, which he said avoided "rehearsing grievances."

"We have to hope that, with God's help, we can bring a healing," he said. "We are going to prove by our spirit the sincerity of our words."

Greg Warner writes for the Florida Baptist Witness.

Student convention scenes



Jerry Merriman, director of the Department of Student Work for Mississippi Baptists, speaks to the students during their convention.



Henry Blackaby, above, director of missions for a Southern Baptist association in Canada, spoke to 700 Baptist students during the Baptist Student Convention last month at Colonial Heights Church, Jackson. The meeting noted the 40th year of missions efforts by the Baptist students in Mississippi.



Gary Permenter, Mississippi State, BSU president, presented during the convention.



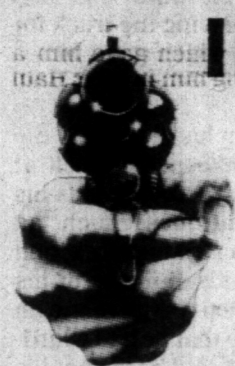
Bill O'Brien, executive vice-president of the SBC Foreign Mission Board, was a speaker during the student convention.



The Revelation College Ensemble of Temple Church, Hattiesburg, presented special music for the students.



Priority, a Mississippi College BSU group, performed during a reception observing 40 years of BSU work in worldwide missions efforts. (Photos by Don McGregor.)



Intensive care

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Can the compulsive drinker control his or her urges?

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tually develop the disorder of chemical dependency. Once this occurs, then such things as self-control and will-power become irrelevant to the dependency. From that point on, he or she cannot use will-power to control or stop the dependency. I have seen combat marines who could "walk through the valley of the shadow of death," but who could not by their own will-power control their alcoholism. Like other diseases, chemical dependency requires appropriate treatment.

Questions addressed to Intensive Care are forwarded to Chaplain Joe Stovall at the Mississippi Baptist Medical Center and are handled in consultation with Dr. Ed Burchak of the staff of the Chemical Dependency Center. Inquiries should be addressed to Intensive Care, Baptist Record, Box 530, Jackson, Miss. 39205.

Mississippi Baptist activities

Oct. 12 World Hunger Day (CAC Emphasis)
Oct. 16 Key Leader Seminar; Baptist Building; 9:30 a.m.-3:30 p.m. (CT)

Gunn is "president of presidents"

Frank Gunn, president of the Mississippi Baptist Convention, was elected president-elect of the year-old state presidents' organization, which meets during the SBC Executive Committee meetings in February and September and during the SBC meeting in June.

Gunn, pastor of First Church, Biloxi, said the 37-member group is basically existing "to support our convention through prayer," and to "promote peace and unity in the SBC."

The state presidents' organization was the group out of which the SBC Peace Committee was born last year when the presidents were called together by Gunn's predecessor in Mississippi, Charles Pickering of Laurel.

Gunn said his office is contingent on being re-elected MBC president in November. Lawson Hatfield of Arkansas is vice president-elect. Floyd Roebuck of Georgia is current president.

Gunn said SBC President Adrian Rogers told him during the recent SBC Executive Committee meeting in Nashville, that since presidents such as Gunn "would know Mississippi people better than he," to send Rogers names of potential nominees for office with resumes to substantiate their qualifications.

Gunn's only plans so far are to get the presidents and their spouses together Monday evening before the 1987 SBC meeting in St. Louis for prayer and fellowship.

Editors pass resolution on open board

(Continued from page 5)

It continues by urging "Baptist agencies at every level to review their bylaws to make certain that 'executive sessions' and closed business discussions are absolutely unacceptable except when sensitive personnel matters are concerned." It requests "assurances be given to Southern Baptists that full and accurate reports be issued of all actions taken in their behalf by every board, commission, and committee related to" the SBC.

The editors' action was prompted by recent closed board meetings at SBC agencies and institutions, Clayton said. He specifically cited closed meetings at the Home Mission Board in Atlanta; Southwestern Seminary in Fort Worth; and Southern Seminary in Louisville, Ky.

The resolution, drafted by Clayton and Richard T. McCartney of Oklahoma, lists four reasons for open meetings:

— "Southern Baptists believe that a democratic polity is the form of government nearest to the New Testament model;

— "Democracy functions best when people have free access to facts concerning (SBC) agencies and institutions and can make informed decisions;

— "Baptists consistently have affirmed their belief in the axiom, 'Trust the Lord and tell the people.'"

Adult leaders clinics set across state

A clinic for all adult Sunday School Department leaders is set for three locations around the state: Oct. 27 at Calvary Church, Jackson; Oct. 28 at North Greenwood Church, Greenwood; and Oct. 30 at South 28th Avenue Church, Hattiesburg.

Purpose of the meetings which are being held in three locations for ease of attendance, is to focus on the tasks



Apple

of the department its organization, leaders working as a team, and the role of each leader on Sunday, during the weekly workers' meeting, and throughout the week, according to

organizer, Keith Williams, adult consultant for the Mississippi Baptist Convention Board's Sunday School Department.

Guest leader for the three meetings will be David Apple, adult consultant for the Baptist Sunday School Board.

Time for all three meetings will be 7-9 p.m. For details, contact Williams at 968-3800.



Simpson



Mee



Anderson



Hill

Media library workers will meet in Cleveland

A large group of church media library workers from throughout the state are expected to attend the annual workshop at Immanuel Church, Cleveland, on Oct. 24 and 25, according to Mrs. Patricia Robinson, president of the Mississippi Church Media Library Organization. Registration is from 11 to 1 o'clock Friday.

The workshop, beginning at 1 p.m. on Friday and continuing until noon on Saturday, will develop the 1987 church media library promotion theme, "Impact 90 — Touching Lives," as six base conferences are held both days and eight two-hour selective workshops are concluded on Friday night.

"Liba" Dean, principal of the Presbyterian Day School at Cleveland, and author of "Jodie, One Little Ewe Lamb," will speak at the Friday evening banquet.

In the general assemblies, Jackie Anderson, Baptist Sunday School Board, Nashville, will bring media recommendations; Keith Mee, BSSB, will give the interpretation of the 1987 Church Media Library Week Emphasis; Glynn Hill, BSSB, will talk on Choice Creation tracts and their use; and Juanita Hight, librarian, FBC, Louisville, will lead a memorial tribute to the late Wayne Todd, former director of the Church Media Library Department of the Baptist Sunday School Board and pastor of several Mississippi and Tennessee churches.

The base conferences will give five

and one-half hours in study course credit areas. Leaders are Keith Mee — Administration; Glynn Hill — Audiovisuals and BTN; Jackie Anderson — Advanced Classification and Cataloging; Floyd Simpson, editor of the Church Media Library Magazine, Baptist Sunday School Board, Nashville — Book Repair; Helen Brown of Murfreesboro, president of the state Church Media Library Organization in Tennessee — Promotion; and Beulah Lewis and Janet Jordan, librarians, FBC, Jackson — Technical Processing.

Selective conferences will be at 7:15 on Friday evening, following the banquet.

Keith Williams, media library consultant, Mississippi Baptist Convention Board's Sunday School Department, has guided officers of the Mississippi Church Library Organization in planning the program. Officers other than Patricia Robinson, president, are Donna Brock, Olive Branch; Dee McCardle, Brandon; LeAnn Morton, Greenville; Sandra Fitts, Corinth; Juanita Hight, Louisville; and Pat Ward, Pearl.

MINNEAPOLIS, Minn. (EP) — Delegates at three separate Lutheran conventions Aug. 29 expressed optimism and joy in the launching of a new 5.3-million-member Lutheran church body in the United States in 1988.

Devotional

Putting iron in your life

By James Ruffin
Deuteronomy 33:25-27

A television commercial tells us to take a Geritol tablet every day to assure our bodies of the proper amount of iron. God encourages us in Deut. 33:25-27 to put iron in our lives by availing ourselves of some tremendous spiritual truths.



Ruffin

Put iron in your life by appropriating for yourself three of the greatest promises in the Bible.

I. "As thy days, so shall thy strength be" (Deut. 33:25). There are all kinds of days. Some are dark and others are bright. Some days are filled with pain. On other days we are glad. Some days are commonplace and routine. Other days are filled with crisis and life changing events.

God promises to meet our needs regardless of the day. Your strength will be sufficient to meet the needs of the day.

II. "The eternal God is thy refuge" (Deut. 33:27). A refuge is a shelter to which we can go in the time of storm or trouble. Put some iron in your life by remembering that the great God who made the heavens and the earth is the shelter, and source of help, for those who trust in him.

III. "Underneath are the everlasting arms" (Deut. 33:27). God's arm is underneath us assuring us of protection and telling us of his love. God's arm is there in time of danger or suffering. His arm is a symbol of his great strength. His arm is everlasting and never grows weary. His arms are always underneath his own, and no power can snatch us from him. What a promise! Make it your very own and it will put iron into your life.

James Ruffin is pastor, Poplar Springs Drive, Meridian.

Faces And Places

by anne washburn mcwilliams

J. O. Streeter

J. O. Streeter hasn't missed going to at least one session of the Chickasaw Association's annual meetings since 1919. That's 67 years. At 88, he's still on the association's Executive Board and has been for 35 years. He said he planned to go to both sessions this year at First Church, Houston, and at Arbor Grove.

Two years ago the deacons of Pleasant Ridge Church presented him with a plaque of appreciation for 45 years as an active deacon. Besides that, he's been church clerk and Church Training director.

"He's an inspiration to all our members," says Sonny Kelly, pastor at Pleasant Ridge. "He's always there for every kind of meeting we have. In the time I've been pastor here, I don't remember his missing a service. He relates well to old and young. The young people like him and sit beside him at church. He often visits shut-ins. He grows his own garden and shares the produce from it — he's been known not only to pick the vegetables, but to cook them too and take them to someone's house and even set them in the refrigerator!"

Mr. Streeter received a 20-year pin for perfect attendance in Sunday School. After he missed one Sunday (while in the hospital), he kept going for another eleven years perfect.

Both his sons are deacons — Basco, who lives next door, and Forrest, who lives in Madison, Ala. In addition, Basco has been song director at Pleasant Ridge for forty years. "I used to try to sing," says Streeter. Of his five grandchildren, one grandson is minister of music at Winfield, Ala., and one grandson is a deacon.

"My wife was a Sunday School teacher," he told me when I stopped for a visit a couple of weeks ago at his

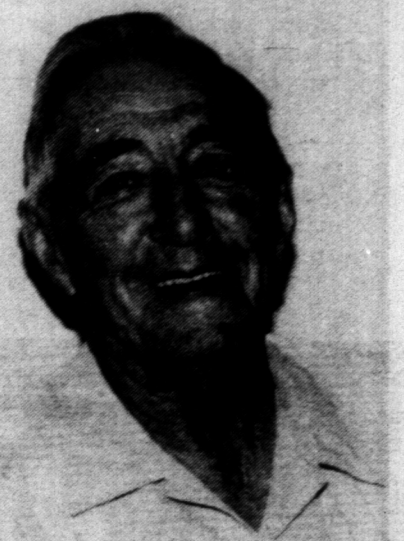
house a few miles from Houston, near the Pleasant Ridge Church. "She died six years ago, on July 10, 1980."

A large black Ford pick-up was parked under one of the trees in the yard of his green house. It's a 1950 model, and he drove it from 1950 until 1984, when he decided to buy another one. That was the milk truck he drove on his route for a cheese plant in Houston. Actually, he drove for the company from 1928 until 1968, all the years it was in operation. Every day he would make 75 to 100 stops to pick up milk cans. Soon he had friends at every stop. "I used to haul children to Wednesday night prayer meetings on the back of my truck," he recalls. He stands erect, looking much younger than his years. His blue eyes hold a glint of good humor. His gray hair is combed smooth and neat.

John Olyn Streeter was born in Waco, Tex., November 3, 1897, but his parents brought him to their native Mississippi when he was a month old. He has lived in this same community since he was 14, moving there from Calhoun County. Since 1910, he's been a member of Pleasant Ridge Baptist Church. "I became a Christian in 1914 during a revival," he remembers, "on a Tuesday night of the fourth week of July."

Because of his father's ill health, Streeter stayed home during World War I to help take care of his younger brother and sister and his step-mother. His mother had died in 1903. His father died in 1918. "I got my schooling in a one-teacher school."

He smiled and his eyes softened as he told me, "I will never forget Dec. 23, 1919." He and Lola Nichols were living at the same boarding house. She was teaching school. He was



working on a farm, for wages. That special day he was walking down the hall and saw her through the open doorway of her bedroom as she stood before the mirror combing her hair. He stopped and said, "I want to buy you a Christmas present," and she answered, "All right. I am yours until death do us part." They were married at her house May 14, 1922.

Her death was the biggest problem, he says, he ever had to face. Another hardship was the loss of vision in his left eye in 1942. A dairy farmer, he owned 18 cows one time, and sold milk, as well as driving the truck for the cheese plant which gave him a certificate, placing him in their Haul of Fame.

Shining floors in his house told me he's a good housekeeper. A shelf at one end of the living room holds his collection of antiques, such as kerosene lamps, a striking clock, and horseshoes. It holds samples of his whittling hobby, too. He gave me a miniature ox yoke that he had whittled from cedar. He said he bought his trunk in 1919 and his sewing machine in 1923.

His daughter-in-law makes biscuits for him, and freezes them. "She knows I eat two each meal," he said. "I don't try to make biscuits or cakes and pies. I just cook my vegetables and meat." He gave me one of the yellow meat watermelons lying on his front porch. It was good!

"I have the Bible on tapes," he said, "and I let people borrow them. Lots of people can listen while they are doing something else. Women quilt at Pleasant Ridge every Thursday; sometimes they listen to my Bible tapes while they quilt."

"I like Psalm 23 mighty well. And John 3:16."

In his nearly 89 years, J. O. Streeter has been a blessing to many people. If anyone needs him for anything, he's always available.



J. O. Streeter drove his black Ford pick-up from 1950 to 1984. He used it on his milk route, and he hauled kids to prayer meeting in it.

Holloway teaches bivocationalists in Brazil

Dale Holloway of Florence, and Wayne Stiles from Mt. Vernon, Wash., led what was perhaps the first ever bivocational pastors' conferences on a foreign mission field, according to Holloway, who himself is a bivocational pastor.

Holloway is national consultant for bivocational ministries for the Home

Mission Board and Stiles is a bivocational pastor in Mt. Vernon.

Purpose of the meetings was to help implement the Brazilian Baptist goal of 6,000 churches and 12,000 mission points by 1990.

N.E. Mann, professor at the Baptist Theological Seminary in Curitiba, planned the conferences, which

discussed the viability of "choosing and nurturing a second profession as an enabler for ministry," said Zacarias Severa, seminary president.

Mann, who is a pilot, also took Holloway and Stiles to a pastors' conference in Sao Paulo and to three in Parana.

Myrtle's Christian Carpenters lend a hammer in Oklahoma

By Anne Dowdy

Twenty-three people from Temple Church, Myrtle, spent their vacation week in Krebs, Oklahoma, doing construction work on an educational building and conducting Backyard Bible School for the Richville Baptist Church.

Krebs is a small town just outside McAlester. It is a predominantly Catholic community settled by Italians. About two miles from the little town is Richville Church, established in 1935. That original,

small, white, framed building has been remodeled several times as Sunday School rooms have been added and the sanctuary enlarged. But in 1979 a new brick sanctuary was constructed across the road. The old building continued to serve as an educational space and fellowship area. Last year a new educational building was started that connected with the new sanctuary, but due to lack of money and workers, none of the inside work was able to be completed to make the rooms usable un-

til the Christian Carpenters from Temple went to lend a helping hand.

Twenty children were enrolled in Backyard Bible School which was held weekday mornings. The highlight of Bible School was the painting of John 3:16, Richville Baptist Church, July 3, 1986 on the shell of a terrapin and then turning the terrapin loose to be found by someone who will read the message.

In addition to construction work and Bible School, members of the

team did some visitation in Krebs and handed out Bibles in nearby Alderson. Some of the members also provided special music at the Sunday and Wednesday night services and gave testimonies at the Wednesday night service. On Tuesday night several of the women attended the Baptist Women meeting and shared with that group some of the mission activities of Temple.

Richville had an outdoor fish fry to honor their guests on the last night there.

The time spent at Richville Church proved to be a time of lay-renewal for the beginning of a revival. A young man at the fish fry trusted Christ as Savior. The pastor, Jerry Holloway, reports that the spirit of cooperation and love among the members is greater than it has been in quite a long time, and the congregation is enjoying the use of the new educational space.

Anne Dowdy is a member of Temple Church.



Pictured are: Front row, from left: Anne Dowdy, Michael Cannerdy, Judy Cannerdy, Linda Irwin, Anna Stanton, Mark Stanton, Susan Dowdy, Penny Jarvis, Mary Jane Taylor, Dana Stanton. Second row: Jerry Holloway, pastor of Richville, Mike Cannerdy, Wayne Stanton, David Taylor, Betty Taylor, and Andy Taylor, Linda Taylor, Kelly Taylor. Third row: Jason Taylor, Joyce Parker, Ronnie Parker, David Snyder, Shelton Ivey, David Butler.

Names in the News

HATTIESBURG — The William Carey College Student Government Association will present Twila Paris in concert at 7:30 p.m., Friday, Oct. 17. Her performance will be held in Smith Auditorium of the Thomas Fine Arts Center on the Hattiesburg campus.

Paris is a contemporary Christian vocalist whose current chart climbers include "The Warrior is a Child," "Runner" and "Kingdom Seekers."

General admission tickets are \$7 and may be reserved in advance by calling 582-6215 from 8 a.m. to 12 p.m. or from 1 to 4 p.m., Monday through Friday.

Four members of Mars Hill Church, Carthage, recently achieved perfect attendance in Sunday School. They were Curtis Manning, and Joe Pat Mooney, 13 years; Myrtle Mooney, mother of Joe Pat Mooney, four years; and Lamar Jolly, pastor, two years.

Jeff Lynn, Christian concert and recording artist and songwriter, will present a concert at First Church, Byram, Wed., Oct. 15, 7 p.m. He is the former lead singer for the group, "Revised Edition." Lynn, a 1982 Baylor graduate, has one solo album released, "Set Apart."

VERONA, N.J. (EP) — The new general of the Salvation Army has named Commissioner Andrew S. Miller of Atlanta to be the next U.S. National Commander of the organization.

Miller, 63, currently commands the outreach of the Salvation Army in the 15 states of the Southern Territory — USA. He will assume the national command upon the retirement of Commissioner Norman S. Marshall on Oct. 18.

Deer Creek Church, Rolling Fork, recently honored its pastor and his family, Mr. and Mrs. E. L. Hudson with a reception celebrating the anniversary of their fifth year in this pastorate. A refreshment table was provided by the ladies of the church for the occasion and a Westminster Chime Clock was presented to the Hudson family in appreciation.



James Anderson "Andy" Graves (right) was licensed to the gospel ministry, Sept. 21, by Roxie Church, Roxie. Graves, a graduate of Mississippi State University and Mississippi College, is presently attending Southern Seminary. He is serving as minister of education at Cloverdale Church, Louisville, Ky. The church presented him with a one volume commentary by Matthew Henry. Joseph Knight is pastor (left).

ROME, Ga. (BP) — Shorter College President George L. Balentine has resigned to accept the pastorate of Hayes Barton Baptist Church in Raleigh, N.C.

Balentine, the 17th president of the Baptist college in Rome, Ga., has been chief administrator since July 1, 1982.

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CALLED TO
ACT

AUTUMN MEANS DISTRICT WMU MEETINGS.

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DISTRICT 1 — November 3

Missionary

Mrs. Parkes Marler
Greece

*Barton,
George Assoc.,
10 a.m.
*Steep Hollow,
Pearl River,
7 p.m.

DISTRICT 2 — October 16

Missionary

Mrs. Hal B. Lee, Jr.
France

*28th Avenue,
Hattiesburg,
9:30 a.m.
*FBC,
Laurel,
7 p.m.

DISTRICT 3 — October 30

Missionary

Mrs. Jimmy Hartfield,
Mexico

*FBC,
Waynesboro,
10 a.m.
*Hickory,
7 p.m.

DISTRICT 4 — October 28

Missionary

Mrs. Jimmy Hartfield,
Mexico

*FBC
Louisville,
10 a.m.
*FBC
Kosciusko,
7 p.m.

DISTRICT 5 — October 28

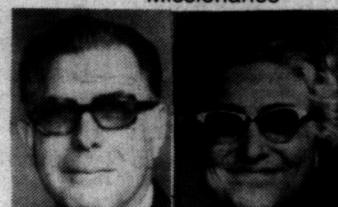
Missionary

Bob Storie,
Miss. Gulf Coast

*FBC,
Starkville,
10 a.m.
*FBC,
Starkville,
7 p.m.

DISTRICT 6 — October 28

Missionaries

Mr. & Mrs. Ralph Davis,
Ghana

*Hebron,
Grenada Assoc.
10 a.m.
FBC,
Houston,
6 p.m.

DISTRICT 7 — October 25

Missionary

Mrs. Glenn Bien,
Bangladesh

*Hillcrest,
New Albany,
10 a.m.-2 p.m.

DISTRICT 8 — October 30

Missionary

Mrs. Wayne Frederick,
Guadeloupe

*FBC,
Booneville,
10 a.m.
*FBC,
Booneville,
7 p.m.

DISTRICT 9 — October 23

Missionary

Mrs. Wayne Frederick,
Guadeloupe

*Crenshaw,
Panola Assoc.,
9:30 a.m.
*Harmontown,
Lafayette,
7 p.m.

DISTRICT 10 — October 16

Missionary

Bob Storie,
Miss. Gulf Coast

*Clarksdale,
10 a.m.
*Duncan,
7 p.m.

DISTRICT 11 — October 23

Missionary

Mrs. Jimmy Hartfield,
Mexico

*FBC,
Hollandale,
10 a.m.
*North
Carrollton,
7 p.m.

DISTRICT 12 — October 27

Missionary

Mrs. Rodrick Conerly,
Peru

*FBC,
Canton,
10 a.m.
*Edwards,
7 p.m.

DISTRICT 13 — October 28

Missionary

Mrs. Phillip Dunaway,
Brazil

*FBC,
Raleigh,
10 a.m.
*Simpson
Center,
7 p.m.

DISTRICT 14 — October 21

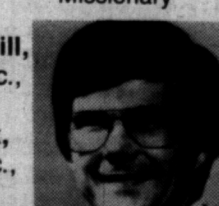
Missionaries

Mr. and Mrs. Ralph Davis,
Ghana

*Pleasant Hill,
Union Assoc.,
9:45 a.m.
*East Fork,
Miss. Assoc.,
7 p.m.

DISTRICT 15 — October 23

Missionary

Rodrick Conerly,
Peru

*Calvary,
Columbia,
10 a.m.
*Bethany,
Jeff Davis Assoc.
7 p.m.

ATTEND ONE CLOSE TO YOU.

-Just for the Record-



Wildwood Church, Tupelo, recently held ground breaking services for its new pastorium. It will be brick, three bedrooms, and almost 1800 square feet. Pictured are members of the committee, left to right, John Woods, Charles Farrar, Richard Warren, and James Jeffreys, pastor. Wildwood Church has experienced growth in the past two year with 103 additions.



Summerwood Church, Olive Branch, is three years old and recently held its first GA and Acteen Recognition Service. The theme was "Here Am I, Send Me."

Top picture, GAs, (l to r) are Natalie Mitchell, Leslie Goodnight, Rebecca Rucker, Susan Rowland, Stephanie Mitchell, Christy Vickery, and Rebecca Kerr. Susan Mitchell is director.

Bottom picture, Acteens, (l to r) are Tracy Goodnight, Angie Goodnight, Julie Taylor, queen; Wanda Rowland, queen; Jennifer Rucker, queen; Suzanne Mitchell, queen; Pam Raines, queen with scepter; Deana Mitchell, queen with scepter and queen regent. Yvonne Taylor is director.



Grace Church, Philadelphia, held its GAs Recognition Service, Sept. 14. The theme was "My Promise to God." Pictured are Geni Nickels, Leslie Sanders, Kristen Lackey, Jamie Branning, Betsy Lee, Jamie Nichels, Julia Barrett, Denise Weir, Heather Holley, Penny Pickle, Angie Sistrunk, Jennifer Musgrove, Candice Branning, Angie Branning, and Christy Copeland. Leaders are Joyce Fulton, Cheryl Cheek, and Martha Duvall. Dennis Duvall is pastor.

Brookhaven groups complete three summer mission trips

First Church, Brookhaven has recently completed a summer of successful missions trips to Colorado, Minnesota, and Gualcince, Honduras.

The first group was made up of 34 youths and adults who went to Breckenridge, Colo. They served with the Agape Outpost Baptist Church, Dwayne Jackson, pastor. The Agape Outpost is a log building that the Brookhaven Church has helped to build over the past four summers. In addition to the construction work, the youth and their leaders also held Bible Day Camps. More than 100 children from the area attended.

The second group of thirty-five went to Split Hand, Minn. This group also worked with a group of people who meet in a small log church under the direction of pastor Ken Simmons.

The team performed construction tasks, conducted Vacation Bible School, and cut firewood to help the church through the winter. People from the area responded warmly to the team.

The third group that went out went to Gualcince, Honduras. Mr. and Mrs. David Carner and Paul Smith along with Mr. and Mrs. Leon Bennett of Southway Baptist Church joined other team members who served in this small and primitive village performing surgery for patients who had been scheduled by missionary Leslie Shaw, a nurse practitioner. The team performed 22 surgeries and did approximately 25 minor procedures.

Robert E. Self is the pastor. David Singleton served as chairman of the missions committee and Joe Brewer provided the transportation.

Revival Dates

Arrowood, 1201 48th Avenue, Meridian: Oct. 12-16; services, 11 a.m., 7 p.m., Sunday; 7 p.m., week nights; different evangelist at each service, Carless Evans, Robert Mooney Sr., Vince Smith, Bill Webb, L. Gordon Sansing, and Bob Followell; Johnny Wyche and the church choir, Marion Felton, Jimmy Crane, Tommy and Anna Anthony, and Marcus Peaglar, music; Robert L. Mooney, pastor.

Bunker Hill (Marion): Oct. 12-16; regular services Sunday; Mon.-Thurs. 10 a.m., 7 p.m.; William F. (Pete) Evans, pastor, State Boulevard, Meridian, evangelist; Robert J. (Bobby) Sanderson Jr., minister of music, Parkwood, Gastonia, N. C., music director; Robert J. Sanderson Sr., pastor.

Coopersville, Morton: Oct. 12; Gary Strehlow, Fort Smith, Ark., former pastor, 10:45 a.m., speaker; dinner, fellowship hall following service; afternoon gospel singing, with the Diplomats of Jackson; no evening services; LaVerne Summerlin, pastor.

Holly Springs, (Marion): Oct. 12; morning worship, 11 a.m.; dinner in activity building; afternoon song service; Robert Sones, former pastor, speaker; James L. Yates, pastor.

New ElBethel (Lafayette): Oct. 12; morning services, 10:30 a.m.; recognition of former pastors and pastors who have been sent out from church; Kent Anderson, interim pastor, message; lunch, noon; afternoon hymn singing, 2 p.m.

Mount Carmel, Edinburg: Oct. 12; Richard Whitton, morning speaker; Claiborne Perry, music director; Voncille Malone, pianist; lunch, fellowship hall; afternoon activities include local singers; Kim Wolverton, pastor.

McAdams, (Attala): Oct. 12; lunch, family life building, noon; Sunday School, 10; preaching, 11; evening services, 6 p.m., men's quartet, North Greenwood, special program of music; undesignated gifts go to building fund for renovation of present church building.

New Hope, (Leake): Oct. 12-13; Carlton Jones, pastor, Wiggins, evangelist; services, Oct. 12, 11 a.m., 1:30 p.m.; Oct. 13-15, 7 p.m.; homecoming, Oct. 12, lunch served following morning service; James H. Young, Jr., pastor; David Pickel, music director.

Antioch, Columbus: Oct. 12-15; regular services, Sunday; noon and 7 p.m., Mon.-Wed.; Tommy Tutor, pastor, Oakhurst, Clarksdale, evangelist; Randy Weeks, minister of music, East End, Columbus, music; Jimmy Harrington, pastor; Mac Pace, minister of music.

Solitude is more enjoyable when you have someone to talk about it with. — Herald, Jasper, Ind.

Homecomings

Clear Branch, (Rankin): Oct. 12; Don Berry, guest speaker; Pat Prestwood, music; noonday meal on the grounds; afternoon song service featuring the Prestwood Family Singers; services 11 a.m.; Arlen Jenkins, pastor.

Arkabutla, Arkabutla: Oct. 12; Jimmy Carr, former pastor, now pastor of Trinity Church, Shady Grove, (Laurel), Charles Cavanaugh, pastor.

Mt. Vernon (Leflore): Oct. 12; James Carr, message; fellowship and lunch, 12 noon to 1:30 p.m., followed by singing in the afternoon.

Harrisville, Harrisville: Oct. 12; James R. Futral, pastor, Broadmoor, Jackson, speaker; Miss Mississippi, Kim McGuffee, special music; regular Sunday morning services, lunch, and afternoon services beginning at 2 p.m.

Dry Creek, Florence: Oct. 12; services, 10:45; James Shumaker, speaker; lunch following services, Abb Hatten, pastor.

Mt. Pleasant, (Holmes): Oct. 12; Walter Ballard, former pastor, guest speaker; Art Slatton, pastor; lunch served, 12:00.

Mother of pastor of FBC, Yazoo City, dies in Kentucky

Mrs. J. C. Yates Sr., mother of James F. (Jim) Yates, pastor of Yazoo City's First Church, died Sept. 26, in Owensboro, Ky. Mrs. Yates, 92, had been in ill health for some time. She was a resident of the Leisure Years Home in Owensboro.

Funeral services for Mrs. Yates were held Sept. 29 at the Haley-McGinnis Funeral Home in Owensboro.

Jim Yates is a former president of the Mississippi Baptist Convention and is a member of the SBC Executive Committee.

Memorial gifts may be made to the building fund of First Church, Yazoo City.

Probably the highest enjoyment comes when you are old enough to know what you are doing but young enough to do it anyhow. — Ingram County News, Mason, Mich.

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SUNDAY SCHOOL LESSON COMMENTARIES

We are still responsible to God for his world

By James W. Street
Genesis 1:26, 2:14

The unanimous opinion of the sacred writers toward the earth is strangely affectionate. Obvious to any careful reader is the love and appreciation that oozes out of every word. This very early passage in Genesis describes the Creator looking upon this good earth with its verdant grasses, its trees and plants and seeing that it was all good, very good.

Last week we noted that the created goodness was provided for human benefit and ultimately as a pointer to salvation. Today we must assume our part in the care and keeping of this goodness. You see, we were given this world and all its goodness in trust as a stewardship. The Genesis writer says God said we are to have dominion — to rule over the world. The world was seen as an ally, as a friend. So, whether we like it or not, we have a responsibility, a stewardship, to take care of this earth until we receive a better state in which to live.

The hymn writer sings "This is my Father's World," and it is! We are the children, the

LIFE AND WORK

special epitome of created order, and we are charged with a responsibility from God to care for his world. Well, how are we doing? Air pollution, noise pollution, tree loss, five pounds (5 lbs.) of American garbage per person per day, aluminum cans in every lake, river, stream and ocean indicate negative progress. Apparently some of my father's children are concerned about his world and many more are just careless. Others are lazy, ignorant, and greedy. All these sins are soundly condemned in the Bible.

Let's look closely at only one of the above — carelessness. Technology has provided ways of helping us correct present problems and prevent future damage. But science cannot overcome carelessness or provide the ethic required for motivation. The only motivation sufficient to produce necessary action is that of responsibility on our part toward God and his

creation. An off-shoot of that feeling of responsibility is love — love for our present neighbors and our neighbors of the future.

When that feeling of responsibility springs into love our carelessness will abate. We will keep our gasoline engines properly maintained. We will not dump our garbage where we please. We will not abuse our water supply with no thought for brothers and sisters yet unborn. You see, a sense of responsibility to God quickly issues forth into the idea that we are our siblings' keeper. You, as a Christian, cannot in good conscience pass on dirty air, polluted water, empty cans, and untreated garbage to your heirs or neighbors.

Our faith does have much to say about all of this. God made all this and other worlds and said, "That's very good." Then he made us and said, "Take charge." This is his world, not ours; we are his ombudsmen. The purpose, value, and meaning of your life is intertwined with your stewardship of the world in which God has placed you.

Christians have a special reason to care

about the natural world. For we know that we are made in the image of God, and that is why we are responsible for nature's custody. This imago dei is the statement that we are the pinnacle of the created order. I do not know what you call this image — I call it the ability to choose. We can choose to be sensitive to God and his world. We can choose to be responsible for his world, our family, and future inhabitants. It is precisely our nature as human beings created in the image of God, that makes us different from other members of the animal kingdom and gives us this responsibility.

We have learned the bitter lesson that technological successes do not make us independent of nature or nature's God. Through our advances we have created new problems we have never had before. It all boils down to air, water, and food. Knowledge is not enough. We have to feel the value of God's world. We have to feel a keen responsibility for all these gifts. We are called to be stewards of this God's creation.

James Street is pastor, First, Cleveland.

John the Baptist: Faithful to one he came to proclaim

By Marjean Patterson
John 1:19-15

A great lesson in faithfulness was displayed by John the Baptist in this week's portion of the gospel of John. He was faithful to the mission to which he had been called — "a witness to the light" — and he was faithful to the one — Jesus — whom he came to proclaim.

I. The faithfulness of the messenger (1:19-28)

For four hundred years, since the time of Malachi, there had been no prophet in Israel. Then John the Baptist appeared to prepare the way for the greatest prophet of all, the Savior.

Because the people recognized God's message as John the Baptist preached and baptized, great crowds flocked to hear the itinerant evangelist.

It was to be expected that John's ministry ultimately would reach the ears of those who were the religious leaders of the day. So, on one occasion a committee of priests and Levites made their way to Bethany, where John the Baptist was baptizing in the Jordan River.

In the short conversation which followed, John made a threefold denial. He made plain to the committee that he was not the Christ. A

BIBLE BOOK

man of lesser faithfulness than John might have been tempted to make the claim of deity for himself. After all, he must have thought often of the unusual circumstances surrounding his own birth. Surely his mother, Elizabeth, had shared with John the story of the visit of the angel Gabriel with her husband, Zechariah. A delightful son was promised them in their old age. Zechariah was promised that many would rejoice because of the birth of this boy — "for he will be great in the sight of the Lord."

John quickly denied that he was the Christ, nor was he Elijah reincarnated, neither was he the Moses-like prophet whom the Jews had expected.

In a magnificent display of humility, John identified himself as a voice for the Word. Though he was speaking to large crowds of people and baptizing many, he firmly told the Pharisees that he was not even worthy to perform the slave-task of untying the thongs of the sandals of Jesus.

II. The message of the messenger (1:29-36)

According to the Synoptic gospels, the baptism of Jesus by John the Baptist was followed by a forty day period of temptation of Jesus by Satan. So apparently it was about six weeks later when John saw Jesus again.

As John's denial that he himself was the Christ was threefold, so his witness to the Christ was threefold. Upon seeing Jesus, John identified him with the Old Testament concept of the sacrificial lamb and also stated his purpose to be the redeemer of all mankind.

Jesus was further identified as the one who had come after John in time but who actually was before him both by preexistence and by purpose. John had been given a sign that the Christ would be recognized at his baptism when the Holy Spirit descended upon Jesus. This John saw in Jesus.

III. The reward of the messenger (1:37-51)

John was the forerunner. He took the initiative in turning the allegiance of his own followers to Jesus. Again, a lesser man would have had problems of hurt feelings with this. John was always conscious of his role as the one who was sent to witness, to be a mouthpiece, for one who was greater than he.

Andrew was one of John's followers who was introduced to Jesus. The very first thing Andrew did was to hurry to locate his brother, Simon. Can we imagine how much poorer we would be if Simon had not been found by his brother and taken to Jesus? For Simon was the one, of course, who would become the leader of the twelve men closest to Jesus and he was the one who preached with such great power at Pentecost that about three thousand believed and were baptized.

Jesus and his small group of followers moved from Judea to Galilee where he called Philip to follow him. Phillip found Nathanael and assured him that the promised one had come.

Conclusion

The story of John the Baptist should encourage each of us. He recognized his place and fulfilled it in God's plan; he did not seek to draw men to himself, but to the Savior, and as Jesus began to assume his rightful place in history, John's popularity diminished. What a noble, self-effacing person was John the Baptist. May his tribe increase!

Marjean Patterson is executive director, Mississippi WMU.

The renewal of the covenant ushers in better days

By Robert E. Self
Joshua 24

It is always interesting to learn what a person has on his heart in the late days of his life. Every pastor has had experiences that stick out in his mind that occurred shortly before some saint died. The occasion of the cross has Jesus praying for us and showing us the depth of his commitment. Paul, from a jail cell, could write to his friend Timothy the moving words "I have fought a good fight, I have kept the faith."

Joshua had come close to the end of his life when he gathered the leaders of Israel together at Shechem. (24:1.) He would soon die and he had a great concern for his people. He had called the people to gather at the sacred city between Mount Ebal and Mount Gerizim, the mountains of blessings and cursings. Moses had gathered the people there before Joshua and had led them into a covenant. The covenant provided that blessings would be proclaimed from Gerizim and cursings from Ebal.

Joshua desired before his death to see the people renew that agreement with God. If they were obedient, they were to be blessed. If they rebelled, they would be cursed.

UNIFORM

I. A directive (24:14-15)

Joshua issued a challenge that cut to the heart of their need. They were directed to reverence God and to do away with the foreign gods that they had acquired. Over the years of being exposed to the worship of pagan gods, they had brought some of them into their worship. Their fathers had sometime fallen victim to the trap of paganism. The first step toward a healthy faith is to remove whatever has come between a person and God. So, Joshua directs them to put away their idols and worship God.

He then led the way in this resolution. He did not wait for others to help him make the decision but rather affirmed that, "For me and my house we will serve the Lord." These are the words of a sturdy old warrior in the late years of his life, determined to end on a high note. He had experienced power, popularity and position in his life but he chose to end emphasizing his faith. There were no temptations to this world that obscured his resolve. He held no desire to

end quietly without stirring the waters of faith, nor to stand in well with the children of Israel by being quiet. A lifetime of serving God could not end in any other fashion.

II. A dialogue (24:16-18)

The people immediately entered into dialogue and made resolution on their own to serve God and him alone. They remembered that God had blessed them and led them out of slavery, working many miracles on their behalf. He drove others from the land and allowed them to live in cities that they had not built.

As is so often the case, the people made a decision without considering the cost. They were no doubt sincere in their desire to do what was right. Time, however, showed that they lapsed on their commitment and there were times when they again served strange gods.

There is something good to be said about deciding early in life to live by faith, and we would never want to discourage that. However, there almost always exists at some time in our lives the need to really determine what is involved in being a Christian and to commit ourselves anew, to remake the covenant to live

by faith.

III. A warning of disaster (24:19-24)

Joshua reminded the people that one must not carelessly deal with great things. They had responded quickly to his invitation but he could not let them assume that they had met the requirements of faith.

The warning of disaster centers in the truth that God will not surrender anything of what he is to idols. And Joshua knew that there existed some comfort among the people in their attempts to combine the worship of God with pagan gods and that God would not allow that. So he warned them that judgment would come if they failed to be faithful.

The people were resolute in their response. They promised to serve Jehovah and him alone. The renewal of the covenant ushered in better days as God blessed their faithfulness.

Conclusion:

Perhaps we should ask ourselves whether our commitment to Jesus has lessened, and whether our lifestyles continue to honor him. It is so easy to forget to keep the covenant with him and to slowly drift into apathy.

Robert Self is pastor, First, Brookhaven.

THE VILLAGE VIEW



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Gifts of Honor and Memory

A portion of the Village View is allocated each month to a list of Gifts of Honor and Memory. Many groups and individuals elect to pay tribute to others through this sensitive, meaningful and helpful medium. This feature is hopefully designed to further honor, with taste and respect, those who are and have been special to our special friends.

September 18 - October 1, 1986

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Mr. Alton Alexander
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Class, Jayess
Cecil W. Allen
Doc & Carol Ann Oakman
Rep. Robert "Bob" Anderson
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Forest Baptist Church
Johnny Johnson
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Margaret B. Kendall
Ms. Josie M. Sawyer
Miss Loraine Norman
The Joe Bunch Family
Mr. J. K. Luter
Mrs. Fern M. Lyter
Mrs. Velma Massey
Mr. & Mrs. Pat Dawson
James McCarter
Mr. & Mrs. Jim Hardin
Mr. W. E. McClendon
Ms. Malona T. Shields
Mrs. Opal McCord
Bob & Joyce McCord
Mr. Ricky McCraney
Mr. & Mrs. Lawrence Kenneth &
Scott
Mrs. Eunice McDaniel
Ms. Gladys D. Bingham
Monroe & Mirva McLaughlin
Newton & Grace Burkes
Mr. "Tigg" McLellan
Mr. David Bozone
Mrs. Beryl Merrill
Ryan Saucier & his family

Leroy Miller
Mr. & Mrs. Thomas W. Cade
Mr. Phil Misso
Mrs. Anna Holliman
Mr. Emmitt Mitcham
Mr. & Mrs. B.E. Gandy
Mrs. Louise Morgan
Sue & Davis/Claudine Reynolds
Mrs. Nina Musgrove
Mr. & Mrs. W. J. Thompson Jr.
Myatt Myatt
Mrs. Don V. Schilling
Donny & Roy Schilling
Mrs. Bernice R. Norman
Mr. & Mrs. Owen Jones
Mr. & Mrs. William F. Peery &
Jana
Mr. Posey O'Neal
Mrs. Fern M. Lyter
Mrs. Helen Simpson Omohundro
The Lyle Bates Family
Aline & Marvin Collum
Mr. Riley Owens
Mr. & Mrs. B. E. Gandy
Thomas D. (Tom) Pace, Jr.
Mr. & Mrs. W. H. Holman, Jr.
Mr. & Mrs. W. B. McCarty, Jr.
Paul & Elizabeth Moak
Mrs. Lila Page
Shell
Ruth & David Word
George L. Parker
Mr. & Mrs. Roy L. McAlum
Mr. & Mrs. Bud Parker
Mrs. Clara B. Godwin & Family
Mrs. Mae Harpole Patterson
Mrs. W. A. Hughes & Family
Mr. Danny Pennington
Callie D. & Pope/Gladys Taylor
Billy Jack "Jackie" Ponder
Mr. & Mrs. Woody Cox
Dr. Ernest Leonard Posey III
Mrs. Lawrence W. Long
Mrs. G. C. Perry
Mr. & Mrs. J. C. Stennett
Class of 1937 Reunion Planning
Com
Mrs. L. H. Fulcher Sr.
Dr. & Mrs. John W. Long
Mr. & Mrs. Fulton Thompson
Mr. & Mrs. T. Arnold Turner Jr.
Mr. & Mrs. Robert E. Womack
Mr. & Mrs. S. R. Lee
Mrs. Lester Bear
Mr. & Mrs. Seab Reynolds
Mrs. Frances E. Rembert
Doyle Ponders
Kolola Springs Baptist Church
Mr. M. E. Ragsdale
Mrs. Marilyn D. Hughes
Mr. Bobby Rice
Mrs. W. H. James
Mrs. Helen Rogers
Mrs. John Ashley
Dr. & Mrs. William Stanfill
Mrs. J. A. (Earline) Rowland
Mr. & Mrs. W. T. McNair
Mr. & Mrs. G. C. Perry
Mr. & Mrs. W. G. Clark
Mrs. Lena Saxon
Mr. & Mrs. Cliff Landrum
Mrs. Paul Shelton
Mr. & Mrs. Robert L. Brent
Fred & Sarah Silis
Mr. & Mrs. Raymond Felten
Mrs. Etoie Simmons
Mrs. Lottie Henderson
Mrs. Mildred M. Soder
Mrs. W. R. Bruce
Mrs. Lola Ida South
Mrs. Evelene Hester
Mr. & Mrs. Henry L. Wilemon
Clay Spencer
Mr. & Mrs. James T. Rickard
Vardaman Springer
John and Rosabel Wade
Mrs. Effie Stegall
Mr. & Mrs. Floyd E. Coil
Mr. & Mrs. Billy Skelton
Mr. & Mrs. J. W. Story
Mrs. L. E. (Mary S.) Green
Mr. C. M. Stuart
Mr. Trey Fleming

John Stutts
Mr. & Mrs. James T. Rickard
Amy Davis Sykes
Mrs. William R. Davis Jr.
Mr. & Mrs. James Davis
Care Lee Taylor
Ms. Mattie Sanders
Mr. Jasper Terri
Mr. & Mrs. A. M. Linton, Jr.
Mrs. Hattie Thompson
Mrs. Frank W. Baldwin
Mr. William E. "Bill" Tucker
Officers & Directors of
Trustmark National Bank
Mr. Charles Tyer
Mr. & Mrs. Tommy Hancock &
Family
H. I. Tyner
Dr. & Mrs. Arnold Hull
Mrs. Madie Vance
Mr. & Mrs. Walter B. Moore
Mr. Francis Vivrette
Mr. & Mrs. Clyde H. Furlow
Mrs. Mary Walker
Miss Laura E. Horton
Mr. & Mrs. Robert R. Rhyne
R. J. Wall
Ebenezer Baptist Church
Mrs. Ruth Weems
Mr. & Mrs. Richard Hazelwood
Mrs. Eugene Wheeler
Mrs. John Keathley
Mr. & Mrs. Morgan E. Williams
Jeremy White
Mrs. W. Zack Huggins
Willie Wiggins
Tommy & Peggy Taylor
Mrs. Wilson
Mr. & Mrs. Clyde Eubanks
Terrell Eubanks
Mrs. Sally Woodard
Mr. & Mrs. Larry Gnemi
Bob Work
The Men's Class of Salem Baptist
Church
Eva Wyatt
David Bagley
John M. Yarborough
Mr. & Mrs. W. H. Holman
Mr. & Mrs. W. B. McCarty, Jr.
Mrs. John Yarborough
Mrs. John Sullivan
Mrs. Pattie H. Hilton
Mr. & Mrs. R. E. Yarbrough
Mr. & Mrs. Bobby Hannaford
Alecus J. Young
Mrs. Hettie Legett
Esther S. McCoy
Mrs. Eunice Young
Miss Mary E. Vincent

HONORS

James T. Hollingsworth &
Family
Mrs. Rose T. Jackson
Mrs. Flossie Lee
Alathea Sunday School Class
Barbara Thornton
Margaret Lilly Sunday School
Class

ASSOCIATIONAL MEETINGS

In a few days the first of the 1986 annual associational meetings will take place. This year we are extremely grateful that so many associations have chosen to highlight "THE MISSISSIPPI MISSION", Mississippi Baptists' Endowment Campaign for the colleges and The Village. As you know the goal is to raise forty million dollars of which The Baptist Children's Village hopes to receive at least four million.

Mr. Paul N. Nunnery, Executive Director, has mailed the annual report of The Village to the Directors of Missions and Moderators for inclusion in a Book of Reports and associational minutes. In addition, Village staff members will be speaking in Tippah, Jeff-Davis, Rankin, Holmes, Tishomingo, Humphreys, Clarke, Alcorn, Bolivar, Leflore, Union County, Leake, Lincoln, George, Covington, Yazoo, Panola, Lawrence and Walthall Associations. A representative from The Village has accepted an invitation to share information about our ministries via an exhibition booth in Sunflower Association.

DID YOU KNOW?

The Children's Village was the first child care agency of any type in the Deep South to be accredited by NATIONAL ASSOCIATION OF HOMES FOR CHILDREN?

* * *

Mississippi children and youth to the age of 18 years, from every county in the state are accepted for care?

* * *

In an average year, our children consume 4,000 dozen eggs, 11,000 pounds of potatoes and 6,000 gallons of milk?

* * *

The Village, offering one of the largest child care programs in the Southern Baptist Convention, has the smallest endowment fund in the SBC? (less than 1/8th of the average).

* * *

The Children's Village, as an official agency of Mississippi Baptist Convention, is partially supported through an annual allocation from Cooperative Program funds? (Normally, 16% to 18%).

* * *

Residential Group Care (campuses); Group Homes; Foster Family Care; and Family counselling represent services included in the ministry of The Baptist Children's Village?

QUESTIONS AND ANSWERS

Question: Will The Village allow me or my group to sponsor a particular child?

Answer: Yes, but you can help in a more effective way if you will give CASH and let the administration through the Social Service Department provide for all the children in a more consistent, equitable way.

Question: What is the toughest time, financially, of the year for The Village?

Answer: Due to dependency on voluntary gifts from friends, any thirty to sixty day period receipts decline The Village faces enormous pressures from CASH FLOW challenges. However, normally the toughest time of the calendar year is from NOW until gifts for THE HOLIDAY fund (Thanksgiving-Christmas) arrive.

Question: If my family wanted to host "a Village child" for The Holidays what procedure should we follow?

Answer: Write or call The Village addressing these kinds of inquiries to The Social Service Department.

Question: Will a representative of The Village speak to my group?

Answer: Yes, speaking schedules are coordinated by Dr. Kermit D. McGregor, Director of Public Relations.

Question: Since I would like a visit from someone explaining opportunities relative to devises, bequests, etc. whom do I contact?

Answer: Call Mr. Paul Nunnery, Executive Director, or Dr. Kermit D. McGregor, Director of Public Relations.

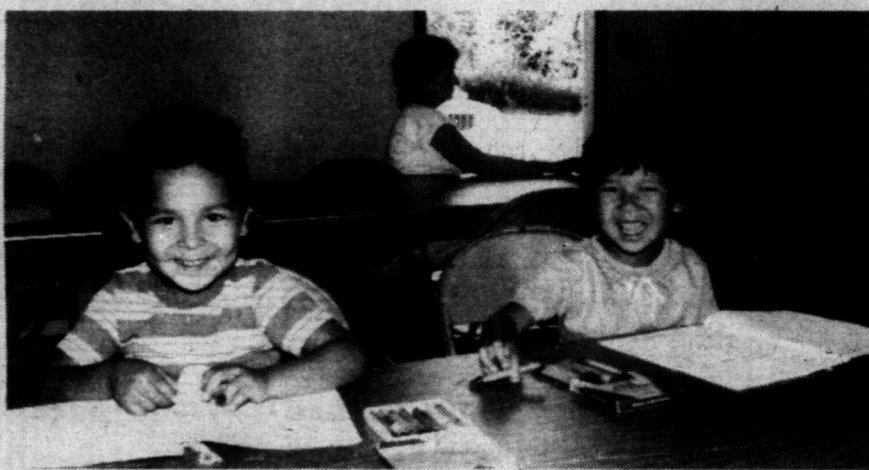
Baptist Record



The Carpenters: Front row (left to right) — G. E. Jolley, Otis Wolfe, Sam Lott, Harold Vaughan. Back row (left to right) — Trent Grubbs, Jack Dempsey, Bob Crouch, Allen Tompkins.



Mission VBS Faculty: Front row (left to right) — Renee Powers, Janet Powers, Doris Dempsey, Linda Vaughan, Christie Ellis. Back row (left to right) — Dot Scruggs, Mary Womack, Stella Ballard, Jo Lott, Ervia Kuehn.



Tray Turns Plenty (the pastor's grandson) and a happy but unidentified Crow Indian girl await the arrival of the other boys and girls.



Linda Goins, mission VBS director, is shown with Crow Indian children.

China Christians meet at national conference

BEIJING (BP) — Chinese Protestants elected leaders for their two main organizations and heard assurances of continued religious freedom at the Fourth National Christian Conference, held in Beijing in late August.

The 280 conference delegates re-elected Bishop Ding Guangxun (K. H. Ting), 71, as president of both the China Christian Council and the Three Self Patriotic Movement. Also elected were 18 vice chairmen and vice presidents for the two organizations.

The China Christian Council, formed in 1980, works to increase the quality of ministry in local churches through theological education, the printing of Bibles, hymnals and Christian literature, and other efforts. The Three Self Patriotic Movement represents Chinese Protestants in relations with the government and the general public. Chinese Catholics

have their own national organization.

Communist Party official Jiang Ping told conference delegates that freedom of religious belief is a basic right, according to news reports of the conference.

"We must . . . respect and protect the democratic right of the people," Jiang was quoted as saying. "Any practice which runs against this policy must be corrected."

Another party official praised the two Chinese organizations for helping implement the government's policy on religion and for involving Christians in China's modernization efforts.

Bishop Wang Shenyn, a Three Self vice chairman, reported Chinese Protestants now have about 6,000 ministers nationwide. Wang said 300 have been ordained since 1981. He estimated the number of open churches at "more than 4,000." The last national conference was in 1980.

Roman Catholic-Southern Baptist hay lift helps Georgia farmers

By Jim Burton

MADISON, Ga. (BP) — Farmer helping farmer in the name of the Lord has helped relieve a critical hay shortage in Georgia.

Fifteen boxcars of hay from Roman Catholic dairy farmers in Iowa were distributed to dairy farmers in 15 drought stricken Georgia counties through coordination by the Knights of Columbus, a Catholic men's organization, and the Brotherhood Commission, the Southern Baptist missions education agency for men.

Roger Lamar, a dairy farmer from Putnam County and member of Jefferson City Baptist Church, said the hay lift, "displays Christianity. People are reaching out to share their love in the community. This is what we need more of. The world would be a much better place if everyone would share and share alike."

Gary Hargrove, Iowa Brotherhood director, said working with the Knights of Columbus has built some bridges between Southern Baptists and Roman Catholics. "I think it let them know that Southern Baptists aren't really weird," said Hargrove. "It opened their eyes that we are in the mainstream of religion."

For Austin Dennis, the hay distributed by Southern Baptists was the first he received. "It will make a big difference," said Dennis. "It will feed my calves for a month."

Dennis said he is a Methodist and that his cows would be glad to get the hay grown by Catholic farmers.

"They'll smile at this," said Dennis. The farmers who received hay represented a number of denominations. Some do not attend church.

"I think it will make a big impression on these fellows, especially those who don't go to church," said Tyson. "I had one out there a while ago telling me how much he really appreciated it. He said he reckoned he'd have to start going to church somewhere."

Hoyt Howard, Morgan County Baptist Association's disaster relief coordinator, was pleased with the distribution.

The Wittenburg Trucking Company, Readlyn, Iowa, hauled the hay from the farms to Prairie du Chien, Wis., at half the cost. The Southern Baptist Home Mission Board covered those expenses. Two railroad companies, Burlington Northern and Norfolk Southern, donated boxcars and transported the hay from Wisconsin to the six Georgia cities. In addition, local farmers and businesses in each state donated tractors and fork lifts to help load and unload the hay.

A second hay lift coordinated by the Brotherhood Commission has been completed. Dewey Hickey, Kansas-Nebraska Brotherhood director, arranged for two boxcars of hay to be delivered to Cleveland, Tenn., Sept. 17.

Jim Burton is associate editor of the SBC Brotherhood Commission's World Mission Journal.

Panola men work on Montana dorm; women teach Crow Indian children

For the fourth year, Panola Baptists went to the campus of the Yellowstone Baptist College in Billings, Mont. to work on a dormitory. This year the group from Panola County was joined by Trent and Evelyn Grubbs and Ervia Kuehn from Lafayette County. Evelyn Grubbs, Floye Tompkins, Emma Jolley, and Renya Wolfe handled the cooking chores for the group. Trent Grubbs, Allen Tompkins, Sam Lott, Harold Vaughan, Jack Dempsey, Otis Wolfe, G. E. Jolley, and Bob Crouch worked with sheetrock, suspended ceilings, and roofing jobs. The project was sponsored by the associational WMU, associational Brotherhood,

and the Associational Missions Development Program Council.

Eleven of the women, along with Linda Goins and Walter Ballard, director of missions, did a mission Vacation Bible School at Pryor, Mont. on the Crow Indian Reservation. Sixty-three children, youths, and preschoolers, plus two adults, were enrolled for the Vacation Bible School, in addition to the 13 faculty members. Mrs. Dub Hughes, the area missionary's wife, had requested that the group provide the faculty for this project. In addition to Linda Goins and Walter Ballard, the faculty was composed of Linda Vaughan, Jo Lott,

Renee Powers, Janet Powers, Bernice Crouch, Stella Ballard, Dot Scruggs, Mary Womack, Doris Dempsey, Ervia Kuehn, and Christie Ellis.

Speaking in the services of area churches were Jack Dempsey (Red Lodge), Trent Grubbs (Trinity), Otis Wolfe (Blue Creek Mission), G. E. Jolley (Rimrock) and Walter Ballard (Calvary-Laurel, Montana).

Dot Scruggs said, "It has made me come away with a greater burden on my heart for the urgency and need for mission work in that area." Renee Powers added, "I wish we could have told more people about Christ."

New Hope (Webster) to celebrate 100th

New Hope Church, (Webster), will celebrate its centennial, Oct. 26. The morning worship service at 10:00 will have special music by the church choir and Mrs. Kaye Dorroh, soloist. Several former pastors will participate, and the morning message will be brought by former pastor John Allen Wade of Vaiden. The afternoon service begins at 2:00 and will include former pastors. A pageant of church history will be presented by the choir and members of the church. Following the afternoon service a reception will be held in fellowship hall. Paul Weddle Jr. is pastor.

Randall Cothren, was licensed to the ministry by Mt. Zion Church, Franklin Association. He began serving as pastor of Shiloh Church, Claiborne County, on September 25. His ordination service is set for October 19, at Mt. Zion Church. Marvin Howard is pastor of Mt. Zion.

Al Moseley has resigned as pastor of West Gulfport Church, Gulfport.

Mrs. Sara Morton has been called as minister of music at Zion Church, Pontotoc County.

Staff Changes

David Sumner is the new minister of music at First Church, Tutwiler. A native of Corinth, he earned a master's degree in music from Delta State University. He previously served on the music staff of Riverside Church, Clarksdale. Sumner and his wife, Elizabeth, have two children, Dawn and Oakley. He began his work in Tutwiler on September 1. H. Gregg Thomas is pastor.

L. W. Haselmaier has resigned as pastor of Johnson Creek Church, Greene Association, to accept the pastorate of a church in Clark County, Alabama.

Baptist Record

005-DIM 39
SO BAPT HIS SOCIETY 10-02
SUITE 400 00
901 COMMERCE ST
NASHVILLE TN 37203

October 9, 1986

Box 530, Jackson, MS 39205